

Arizona Protecting Communities, Supporting Survivors Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Every year, more than 12 million women and men across the United States are victims of rape, physical violence or stalking by an intimate partner, that's 24 people per minute. These incidents are devastating to individuals, families and children. In addition to the initial trauma, victims of domestic violence are much more likely to experience long-term mental and physical health concerns. Everyone deserves to be safe at home. Working together, state leaders, community partners, advocates, and survivors across Arizona are committed to connecting individuals with resources and support, enhancing protection for victims, and keeping all Arizonans safe.

This April, Governor Ducey signed Kayleigh's Law into action - providing victims of crime the ability to seek out continued protection from contact, even if a perpetrator's probation is terminated. Arizona is the first state in the nation to offer this protection to victims.

We must all work together to improve the way we serve those impacted by domestic violence. Service providers, law enforcement agencies, the judicial system and so many more are partnering to meet the needs of victims of sexual and domestic violence through multi-disciplinary, collaborative, and victim-centered approaches.

Through the STOP (Services • Training • Officers • Prosecutors) Violence Against Women Grant, the Governor's Office of Youth, Faith and Family (GOYFF) awards approximately \$3 million annually to programs throughout the state to support victim services, Sexual Assault Response Teams, trainings and special projects that focus on increasing victim safety and offender accountability. Funding is also provided to aid in the training and support of sex trafficking prevention, outreach, and service expansion.

Each of us can play a role in offering support, resources and services to prevent domestic violence, protect families across Arizona, and keep children safe.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month provides an important opportunity to enhance education, prevention and intervention efforts around domestic violence and support organizations and individuals who provide advocacy efforts, services, and assistance to victims.

If you are concerned that a friend, family member, coworker or someone you know may be in an abusive relationship, call the National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233. Learn more about domestic violence prevention and awareness efforts, and connect with resources, services and support at ItCanStop.AZ.gov. Together, we can #EndDVinAZ.



Get to know ACJC's Crime Victim Assistance Program

Every year, the ACJC Crime Victim Assistance Program distributes grant funds to provide victim assistance services directly to victims of crime. Funds can be used to provide crisis intervention services, emergency services, support services, court-related services such as advocate services, victim rights notification, training for staff and volunteers who provide direct services to victims, and other services addressing victimization.

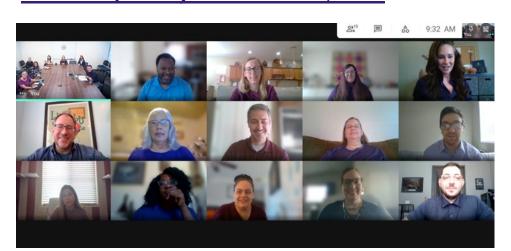
Funding from this grant has helped to support a variety of projects related to domestic violence.

Funding for training has supported a Trauma and Resilience Trainer who facilitates live and web-based training on trauma and trauma-informed care; has subsidized training to provide advocates and allied professionals standardized training on comprehensive victims' issues; and provided program funding to develop training for law enforcement, schools, and youth providers to support teens/students who witness or experience domestic/sexual/teen dating violence. Grant funds have also allowed agencies to fund 24/7 crisis response programs by paying for on-call time for crisis advocates, victim service specialists, and sexual assault nurse examiners. In FY21, funded agencies reported serving 2,270 domestic violence victims.

These are just a few examples highlighting how ACJC funds assisted programs to provide services to victims and survivors of domestic violence. It is through the work of these great programs that essential services and support are provided to victims of domestic violence.

To learn more, visit https://www.azcjc.gov/Programs/Victim-Services/Overview

Wear Purple Day - October 21, 2021



Wear Purple Day is coming on October 21, 2021! Join ACJC by wearing purple as a sign of strength and hope to stand with victims and survivors of intimate partner violence. Post a picture to social media using #LightingAZPurple and/or #EndDVinAZ #WearPurpleDay

ACJC Staff on Wear Purple Day 2020



Arizona Protective Order Initiation & Notification Tool

How AZPoint is Providing Greater Protections for Victims of Crime

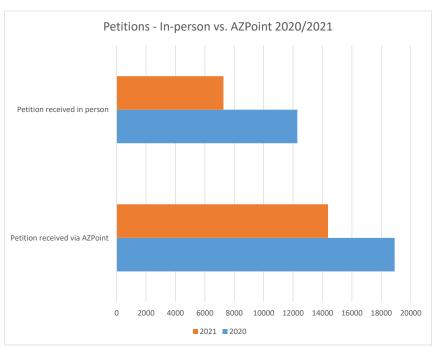
Have you or a loved one needed an order of protection or an injunction against harassment? Chances are, if you do, you know the frustrations they may have experienced with the process before 2020.

The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, in partnership with the Administrative Office of the Courts identified several issues in the existing process and set out to improve the overall experience and improve safety for victims.

The biggest problem with the existing system was it was all paper-based which meant they needed to be completed in-person and entered manually. Because of this, it took an average of 23 days from issuance of orders to when they were actually served and entered into the National Crime Information Center (NCIC).

In January of 2020, the Arizona Protective Order Initiation and Notification Tool (AZPoint) was launched and provided the following improvements to the system:

- The petitioner will be able to complete an Order of Protection/Injunction Against Harassment petition online and then go to any court when they are ready for their hearing.
- When the court grants an Order of Protection, it will send it electronically through a Protection Order system to the serving agency for service. The serving agency will be responsible for printing and serving the order.
- The service agency will have 72 hours to file the affidavit, declaration, acceptance, or return of service to the court. Previously, it was seven days.
- A notification process allows the plaintiff real-time information on the status of their Order of Protection.
- Emergency Orders of Protection will now expire 72 hours from issuance. Previously, it was 24 hours.



From the data, petitioners are still filing in person; however, there is a significant increase in individuals utilizing AZPoint. Between online filings and inperson filings, there have been a total of 52,838 petitions filed since January 2020, with 33,288 of those being into AZPoint.

The ultimate goal is to provide greater protection for the victim, and AZPoint is one major step in that direction.

To learn more, visit www.azpoint.azcourts.gov.

Source: Data provided as of August 31, 2021 from AZPoint



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS—WHAT DOES IT MEAN AND WHAT CAN I DO?

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month (DVAM)— a month to honor and uplift the historically silent epidemic of domestic violence. By recognizing Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October, you are showing domestic violence survivors and their loved ones they are not alone and support is available. This month also gives opportunity to create culture change by debunking myths, understanding dynamics of domestic violence, and interrupting victim blaming in order to reduce stigma around survivorship. Domestic Violence Awareness Month is also a valuable time to share information and resources for domestic violence survivors. Most of us know someone who has faced domestic violence: 1-in-4 women and 1-in-10 men have experienced contact sexual violence, physical violence, and/or stalking by an intimate partner (NISVS, 2018). It is imperative we raise awareness to let survivors in our community know they are not alone, and the violence was not their fault.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month started as a "Day of Unity" in October of 1981 with the purpose of connecting domestic violence advocates across the nation who shared the common goal of increasing safety and healing for survivors. The day grew into a week, and in 1987 the first Domestic Violence Awareness Month was observed in October. This was also the year the first 24/7 national toll-free domestic violence hotline was created, a critical resource for survivors needing help. In 1989, Congress passed legislation designating October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. While the themes of DVAM evolve each year and reflect the people and communities promoting awareness, the original purpose of the month has remained its foundation since 1981: DVAM is a time to mourn those we have lost to domestic violence, celebrate those who have survived, and connect those who do this work.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month celebrates 40 years this October 2021 and we invite you to participate in raising awareness in your communities. Wear purple to bring awareness of domestic violence and honor survivors on #PurpleThursday, October 21, 2021, and all month long. DVAM is all about purple, so be creative! Buy a purple leash for your pet, plant purple flowers, and share on social media and in person why you're doing so. Attend an awareness event hosted by a local domestic violence program in your area or a webinar through the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (ACESDV). Learn the contact information for the local Arizona Sexual and Domestic Violence Helpline for when you or someone who know may need assistance (phone number: 602-279-2980 or SMS text line: 520-720-3383). Share information about the National Domestic Violence Hotline 1-800-799-7233 (SAFE) for those who need 24/7 immediate assistance. Follow ACESDV's social media throughout October and repost/share resources, facts, and information about domestic violence. Donate your time or resources to a local domestic violence program.

Now more than ever, connection is critical to our wellbeing and that of our communities. Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a valuable opportunity to show your support for domestic violence survivors, their children, loved ones, and pets. Let's come together this October to create safe and thriving communities free from violence.

Article provided by Christa Lindsay (she/her) with the Arizona Coalition to End Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence.



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

At the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission, we want to raise awareness about domestic violence and support victims and survivors. This year marks the seventh annual Lighting Arizona Purple campaign, and now more than ever, we need to support Arizonans and shed light on domestic violence.

We encourage communities, businesses, and all agencies to light their buildings and homes purple during the month of October. Visit https://goyff.az.gov/DVSA to access the Lighting Arizona Purple 2021 Toolkit.

Domestic Violence Awareness Month Events and Resources

- 1. H.A.V.E.N. Family Resource Center will be celebrating Domestic Violence Awareness Month along with HAVEN's 20th Year Anniversary with an Open House on October 1st from 5 pm 8 pm. The Mayor of Lake Havasu City will be presenting a Proclamation at the Open House. We will also be lighting up the London Bridge purple during the month along with HAVEN, our partners and other businesses being lit purple for the month.
- 2. This event raises awareness and money to support local domestic violence victims

Name: Ride the Wind

Date: Sat Oct 16, 10AM

Location: GO AZ Motorcycles- 15500 . Hayden Rd, Scottsdale AZ 85260

RSVP/Tickets: https://www.ridethewind.us/events/phoenix-az-2

3. Intimate Partner Violence Assistance Program - Domestic Violence Awareness Month 1st Annual Summit

October 21st 8am-12:30 pm

- 4. CPLC De Colores is hosting a Virtual Walk to End Domestic Violence. The walk starts on October 1 and ends on October 31. Registration is now open. Register Here: https://dash.atlasgo.org/challenges/612d4e5b20ca3c0587a07296
- 5. Emerge Center Againt Domestic Abuse is hosting: **Stuff the Bus:** With the support of **Sun Tran**, Emerge Center Against Abuse will collect supplies for survivors who are starting a new chapter in their lives free from abuse. These events will take place on: Saturday 10/16 from 8 AM to 6PM at the Loft Cinema and Friday 10/29 from 9 AM to 8PM at Walmart Oro Valley.







Southwest Indigenous Women's Coalition



Other ways to Support DVAM

Coalition to Stop Violence Against Native Women

- DVAM Instagram Challenge
- Breaking Silence, Building Generations Discussion Series
- I will Run for Them virtual 5K | <u>REGISTER</u>

Hopi Tewa Women's Coalition To End Abuse

- October 22-24, 2021 5K & 10K Virtual Run
- Register here: HTWCEA

National Indigenous Women's Resource Center

- Register for webinar, Tillie Black Bear Women Are Sacred Day, on 10/1 at 1 p.m. MT.
- Save the Date for the #DVAM Twitter Storm on 10/13 at 1 PM MT. More details soon.
- Wear purple for DVAM on Purple Thursday, 10/21!

Contact Us

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission 1110 W. Washington Suite 230 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 Phone: 602-364-1147

www.azcjc.gov



Follow us on social media





https://www.facebook.com/acjcpio

https://twitter.com/azcjc